

Figures for the Year.

Excess of Exports.

The Government Statist (Mr. W. L. Johnston) made available on Friday, an interesting review of the overseas trade statistics of the State for the year ended June 30. The figures, which are those supplied by the Customs, are preliminary and subject to revision, but are most interesting. They show the balance of trade was in favor of the State to the extent of £4,193,399.

The total South Australian trade for the year ended June 30 was £29,594,141, being £5,161,107 in excess of the previous year and £4,722,919 greater than the annual mean of the previous five years. The trade represents £56 7/11 per inhabitant, against £47 12/2 for the previous year.

The imports were heavy, and amounted to £12,700,371, being £1,853,752 in excess of the previous year and £3,449,980 greater than the annual mean of the previous five years. The trade was equal to £24 4/1 per inhabitant, against £21 2/9 for the previous year.

The exports were £3,307,355 in excess of the previous year, the total being £16,893,770, which exceeded the annual mean of the previous five years by £1,272,939. The trade was equal to £32 3/11 per inhabitant, against £26 9/6 for the previous year.

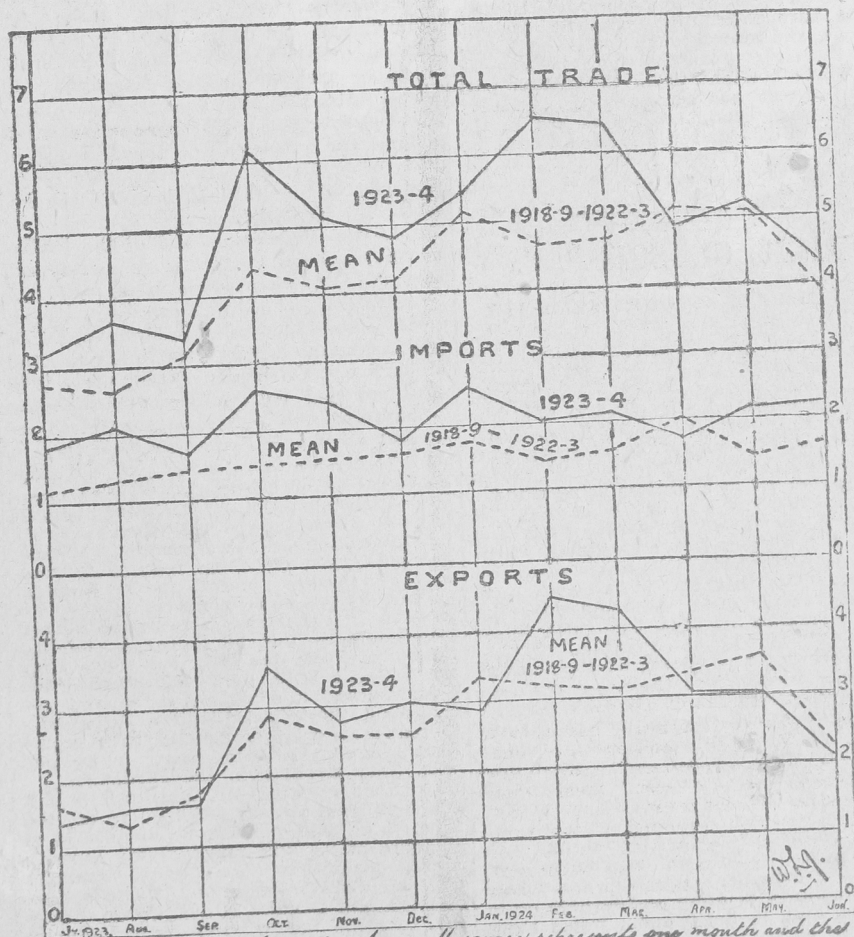
Exports exceeded imports by £4,193,399 (£2,739,796). This was due to heavier shipments of wheat, fruit, wine, and lead

months in comparison with the annual mean of the previous five years, the details have been plotted in months. From these curves it will readily be observed that the import trade exceeded the five years' means for all months excepting April, 1924. The monthly exports fluctuate considerably from the mean, being slightly less in July and September, 1923, and January, April, May, and June, 1924. In October, 1923, February, and March of 1924, they heavily exceeded the mean.

Principal Items of Imports.

Motors and cycles, £1,549,729 (£885,833), increase, £663,896; number of chassis for motor cars, &c., 8,839 (4,795); complete motor cars, waggons, &c., 1,241 (250); motor cycles, 1,739 (995); rubber goods, £280,009 (£186,712), increase £73,297. Textiles—Piece goods, &c., £2,045,225, decrease £168,387; machines and machinery, £1,106,762 (£964,375), increase £142,387; iron and steel, £1,040,737 (£871,872), increase £168,865; timber, £722,207 (£522,662), increase £199,545; tea, £224,388 (£187,658), increase £36,730; apparel and attire, £531,490 (£634,634), decrease £103,194; glassware, £123,755 (£88,208), increase £35,547; bags and sacks, £481,582 (£465,813), increase £15,769; fertilisers (phosphates), £297,277 (£174,408), increase £122,869; paper, stationery, books, &c., £493,717 (£465,154), increase £28,563; oils in bulk, £692,369 (£545,847), increase £146,522; making up the total for year, petroleum and shale spirit, £466,271; kerosine, &c., £98,271; all other £127,827; musical instruments, £127,982 (£45,498), increase £82,484.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MONTHLY TRADE
YEAR 1923-24 AND MEAN 1918-19 TO 1922-23.



Explanation: The base of each small square represents one month and the vertical height £500,000.

and increased values for wool. In measuring the importance of this substantial trade balance it must be borne in mind that a large inter-State trade is carried on of which no record exists except as regards wine, for which the department collects special returns. It is impossible to indicate whether or not the State's exports to the other States balance the imports. Western Australia and Tasmania record this trade, and the records show it to be of substantial volume.

Direction of Trade.

Imports from the United Kingdom were valued at £5,773,963 (£5,733,533), increase £40,430. The proportion to the total trade, however, fell from 52.86 per cent. to 45.46 per cent.

The Chief Exports.

Breadstuffs.—£7,171,736 (£4,740,068), increase £2,431,668. The principal items of this group are:—Wheat, 26,917,737 (14,117,923) bushels, value £6,232,112 (£3,732,427), increase £2,499,685; flour 61,570 (57,302) tons, value £644,534 (£656,942); barley, 1,633,718 (1,767,200) bushels, value £282,348 (£250,265).

Pastoral Products.—£5,382,790 (£4,832,765), increase £550,025, the two main items being wool, 49,332,733 (52,253,984) lb., value £4,644,686 (£3,897,152), increase £747,534; skins and hides, £624,417 (£575,187).

Dairying, Eggs, &c.—£236,769 (£239,119), decrease £2,350. Butter is the main item of this group—27,068 (28,441) cwt., value £222,255 (£268,223).

Orchards and Vineyards' Products.—£667,751 (£520,109), increase £147,642. Apples, 266,839 (14,517) cases, value £113,987 (£6,925); currants, 67,595 (64,432) cwt., value £188,112 (£199,180); raisins and sultanas, 53,297 (29,752) cwt., value £184,049 (£122,176); wine, 753,495 (586,830) gallons, value £133,424 (£109,378). In addition to the overseas trade in wine just noted 1,689,378 gallons, value £26,053 were sent to the other States.

Mining Products.—£3,289,924 (£3,074,058), increase £215,866. The only line to show increased trade was lead, 418,176 (154,177) cwt., value £614,533 (£193,728); concentrates, £1,550,804 (£1,644,919); silver bullion, £983,170 (£1,041,530).

The total net revenue from Customs and Excise was £3,191,286 (£2,737,762), increase £453,524.

Other British Possessions, £1,735,618 (£1,562,935), proportion to total, 13.67 per cent. (14.42 per cent.).

Imports from Foreign Countries—£5,190,790 (£3,549,151), a substantial increase of £1,641,639, the proportion to total increasing from 32.72 per cent. to 40.87 per cent.

Exports to the United Kingdom—£6,664,543 (£5,566,379), increase £1,098,164. Proportion to total, 30.45 per cent. (40.37 per cent.).

Other British Possessions—£2,454,165 (£2,028,888), proportion to total, 14.53 per cent. (14.93 per cent.).

Foreign Countries—£7,775,062 (£5,991,148), increase £1,783,914. Proportion to total, 46.02 per cent. (44.10 per cent.).

Graphs readily trace the course of the year's trade during each of the twelve